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HISTORY OF DALY CITY
FROM THE
DALY CITY RECORD AND TATTLER
DEC. 25, 1915

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HISTORY OF DALY CITY

FROM THE

DALY CITY RECORD AND TATTLER

DEC. 25, 1915

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THE CREATION OF DALY CITY

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

A few years ago when the comedians on the vaudeville stage of San Francisco had exhausted every effort to raise a laugh among their audiences without effect, they played their trump card. The heavy comedian would ask the wielder of the "slapstick", "Where do you live?" "Oh, I live away out in Daly City." A hearty outburst of laughter indicated that the audience enjoyed to the utmost the plight of the man who lived in a world separated from their own; who, alighting from the street car that conveyed him from the region of well-lighted streets, would sink ankle deep in the slush and mud that represented his own main thoroughfare; and after wading and floundering to the footpath that locally was called "the sidewalk" would disappear in a gloom as profound and unlighted as the throat of a buzzard. If he had not had the foresight to provide himself with a lantern or was not met at the street car by some member of his family so provided, his journey to his residence was attended with as many dangers of pitfall and collision as would the journey of a blind man trying to navigate a coal mine.

Today the comedian on the stage is compelled to adopt other means to "raise the laugh" in his audience. The name "Daly City" no longer is the synonym of all that is neglected and forsaken. Except for the neatly painted sign boards that convey to the traveler that he is crossing the border into a different municipality, there is no means of knowing that he has left the confines of a city of a half-million inhabitants and boasting of a half-century of progress. What, then, has brought about such a profound change for the better in a half-dozen years? Answer: Pluck, perserverance, exhaustless, energy, on the part of the inhabitants of the little settlement that was composed mainly of unfortunates who had lost their all in the great conflagration that leveled the city at the mouth of the Golden Gate. Bringing the remnants of their possession with them, and most of all, bringing the spirit of those other pioneers who had dared the dangers of thousands of miles of wilderness, they set about to build up anew a city of their own ideals - a city in whose government their own voice could be heard; a city that, passing through the successive stages of chaos, dissension, and threatened dissolution (for who does not remember the bitter fight to bring about disincorporation?) finally emerged into the sunlight of well-nigh complete harmony and unanimity of action.

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a city ten times its size with gas, electric lights, well-paved streets and a municipal water system that is the peer of any in the West, was not brought about without many a bitter self-sacrifice and denial on the part of its citizens and many a well conducted fight for civic freedom on the part of those composing its Board of Trustees. So bitter was the controversy on each of its many steps forward that at times it seemed even to its best friends that the time had arrived for Daly City to take its place among those cities which "were, but are not". Each time, the golden thread of harmony was strengthened in time to save the life of this City of Pioneers, and it is safe to say that few municipalities of the western world have such bright prospects for the future and such hopes for civic harmony as this, the city born of an earthquake, the city kept alive by the never-say-die spirit of those sturdy men and women who are now just commencing to enjoy the rewards of their first few years of trial and tribulation.

At the time of the big fire and earthquake, the site of our present city was owned by John Daly, himself a pioneer who had successfully conducted a dairy business here for upward of thirty years. "Daly's Hill," the name by which this locality was known, could still be seen on some of the San Francisco street cars two years ago. Seeing the dire need of the fire refugees for locations to build new homes and himself beginning to feel the result of his many years of arduous toil and desiring to retire to enjoy some of the comforts he had accumulated, he divided his land into well-arranged building lots and was thus the first to lay the foundation for the city which now bears his name.

Ed Ryan was the first to meet the needs of the new settlement by erecting a building and starting a grocery store. Several saloons followed, and Mr. Ryan enlarged his building and constructed a public hall that was long used as a meeting place by the various organizations that were soon created to minister to the wants of the community. Eight years ago today the first public Christmas tree was installed in Ryan's Hall and around it gathered the pioneers of Daly City. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Vista Grande Improvement Club were the originators of this entertainment. Shortly afterward a dance was held in an uncompleted building of George White, on Theta Avenue, to raise funds to equip a volunteer fire department. About $60 was realized from this affair. A fire bell was purchased and with no little ceremony and much pride on the part of the little band of refugees the bell was hung on a specially constructed tower on Myrtle Street near Vista Avenue. Who knows but that at some time in the future this same bell, symbolic of the hopes and aspirations of the little band of pioneers there gathered, will not be held in nearly

the same reverence by our citizens that the other bell, now safely returned to its home in Philadelphia, is held in the hearts of the nation at large?

With the exception of the grocery store of Mr. Ryan and the few saloons that were established, there were no mercantile establishments in the new community. A mile in one direction to get a loaf of bread, two miles in the opposite direction to get a supply of fresh meat; these were not the only hardships suffered by the earliest settlers. At first water for domestic use was very scarce. After the opening up of Hillcrest and the Vista Grande tracts for building purposes, a few semi-private water mains were laid that only slightly mitigated the water famine. Indeed until the present Board of Trustees fought for and obtained a municipally owned water system the scarcity of water was not an imaginary evil, but a genuine inconvenience.

On March 18, 1911, the town was incorporated under the name of Daly City. An effort was made to have the name changed to Vista Grande, but the majority of the people voted against the change. Progress from this time on was rapid. Five fire companies instead of one, police and fire protection, better lighting facilities, street improvements, these all followed in rapid order. Not a little of the credit for these betterments is due to the various bodies formed under different names to bring about these very results. Not always working in harmony, but actuated in common by a genuine desire to serve and improve our little community, these various bodies deserve the praise and commendation of every citizen of Daly City, and it is safe to say that they receive it.

Today the casual visitor, in looking over our well-kept streets and pretty cottages, would see little to indicate that less than a dozen years ago these same streets and avenues were the feeding grounds of wandering herds of cattle and the home of the wild things of the field and wood.

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COLMA 22 YEARS AGO

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

In 1894 Colma sported its first newspaper, called the "Colma News", and through the courtesy of A. Ver Linden we are enabled to publish in this Christmas Day, 1915, edition the following interesting excerpts from issue of the "Colma News" during the months of March and April, 1894:

Colma

"The Village of Colma is a quiet little settlement about five miles south of San Francisco. It nestles in between the hills that skirt the ocean on the west and the bay range, known as the San Bruno mountains, on the east.

"A prettier place could not have been found for a growing village. During the summer it has none of the sweltering heat so often experienced by the interior towns of this State; being between the water of the bay and ocean the temperature is kept cool.

"Considerable business is transacted by the local residents. There are groceries, shoemakers, butchers, barbers, telegraph office, express office, saloons, a local comedy troupe and good schools. There is a newspaper here devoted exclusively to the interests of the place and people.

"Bonds are now issued to the amount of $15,000, wherewith to purchase a site and build a new schoolhouse. Surely, we are not neglecting educational facilities.

"Last month there was shipped from here directly to eastern markets 1,742,825 pounds of cabbage; the largest industry here and carried on by the Italians.

"An electric railroad connects Colma with San Francisco; which is but twenty minutes' ride.

"Altogether we are satisfied with our lot, and will extend a willing hand to any and all who should choose to settle among us."

Next Saturday, March 31, all school children will be admitted to the Mid-Winter Fair free.

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from the ashes of the old.

Mr. Castello met with a severe accident while on his way home from the coast.

Critics may find a few typographical errors in this sheet; but when they take into consideration that it is locked in a home-made chase, and printed with a copying press, they must let us down easy.

J. Biggio has replaced his small tank with a large one.

Mr. Armanino has raised his windmill one story and placed an additional tank in connection.

Two of the local boys went to San Pedro to hunt and fish. They came back with all their clothing.

Deputy Sheriffs have been on night duty at the railroad bridge just south of Colma for some time.

Friday afternoon some person or persons unknown forced their way into the Foresters' hall and stole quite a number of articles used by the order. Not satisfied with stealing, they demolished nearly everything they did not take away. Such cussedness should not be treated by law, but should be punished by a good beating.

Next Thursday evening there will be a twenty round glove contest at the Imperial Club arena, between Spider Kelly and Green of the Olympia Club. Both of the men are in training and are reported to be in splendid condition. If the contest is as fair and entertaining as the last, and we are satisfied that it will be, all who attend will get the worth of their money.

Thos. Carroll was buried from St. Ann's church on Friday.

Miss L. Dearborn, principal of the Jefferson school, has departed for the East, and will spend her vacation among relatives.

Just back of the Eight-Mile House a gun club from San Francisco has established its headquarters. Every Sunday the club holds its shoot and consequently that day does not seem to be a day of rest, or God's day, but a regular Fourth of July.

Martin Fay was quietly married to Miss Julia Casey at San Mateo last Sunday.

Born - In Colma May 11, to the wife of T. Touby, (nee Oakes), a son.

There will be a grand outdoor picnic and athletic entertainment at the White House gardens tomorrow if - it doesn't rain. It will be Horseshoers' Day; and one of the novel features of the day will be a contest of horseshoe turning between the four crack turners of California.

Present officers of Court Colma, No. 8216, are:

Thomas Spellman. P. C. R.
James Harrison, C. R
James Oakes, Ex. C.R.
Antone Sturla, Fi Sec.
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BRIEF HISTORY OF COLMA'S EARLY DAYS

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

By R. S. Thornton

This Special Christmas Day Edition of the Daly City Record and The Tattler would be incomplete without an elaborate recognition of that grand old pioneer of Colma, Honorable R. S. Thornton, who on October 31, 1915, celebrated his ninety-seventh birthday.

To do thorough justice, and say the best for our venerable friend that can be said, we herewith reproduce the following article from his own pen as it appeared in the Record (then the North End Record) on May 27, 1909. This is valuable history that greatly increases the importance in preserving this paper:

The citizens of all communities are interested and naturally have a loyal pride in the early history of the place in which they live, and I therefore take pleasure in presenting to the readers of the Record, a concise, though accurate resume of the doings of the early settlers of Colma and the Colma Valley and vicinity, that will be found very interesting at the present time, and because of our superior growing importance as a suburb of the great city of San Francisco, will be of incalculable value to our future posterity.

I wish to begin this story by giving the names of the earliest settlers who, from 1853 to 1860, evinced their faith in the coming grandeur of California by entering the Government lands as homesteaders. Here is the list, that cannot be otherwise than interesting to every old pioneer, and also to the later generations, because most of the names are still familiar to us all: Charles Clark, James S. Clark, John W. Locker, A.D. Willard, J.E. King, J.E. Clebey, A. J. Van Winkle, Mary Dingman (widow), I.G. Knowles, M. Hollingsworth, Franklin White, S.S. White, B.S. Greene, Michael Comerford, Robert Patten, William Burley Sr., Edward Robson, Hipolito Poleto, A.S. Easton, Jeremiah Smith, Herman Duncks, James Wood, John S. Colgrove, William T. Prince, John Cooper, Henry L. White, F.E. Pierce, Edward Burley, Jr. and R.S. Thornton. Those who settled on private lands were: Patrick Brooks, James Casey Sr., Owen McMahorn, Patrick McMahorn and John Gardner. All of these names, the greater portion of these hardy pioneers, have passed on to the Great Beyond and only the following are living: William T. Prince, John G. Cooper, Henry L. White, F.E. Pierce, Edward Burley Jr. and R.S. Thornton (the writer).

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Brief History of Colma's Early Days

Peace, happiness and prosperity reigned supreme until 1859, when suddenly startled by the sight of surveyors encroaching on their premises one day in June, tramping down their crops, with that utter disregard for the rights of people, so often found in a gang of engineers especially when they are the tools of a corporation and hell-bent on vandalism.

They pretended that our lands belonged to the Laguna Merced Rancho, an almost worthless waste of desolation at that time, while our settlers had cultivated their lands and had fine crops on almost every acre, all fenced and with good respectable houses, barns and other good improvements.

The Government had given us pattents to all these lands, and we felt secure in our rights, yet, there followed one of the most unjust and even infamous, litigations that has ever been known in the history of the State of California. We, of course, filed our protests in writing, to the General Land Office at Washington, D.C. against the encroachment of our lands, whereupon our opponents began suits of ejectment in the State courts. This necessitated the organization of the settlers in a club called the "North San Mateo Settlers'Union", for the purpose of defending their rights in the State courts in the protection of their homes.

The club selected R.S. Thornton as their legal fighting man to prosecute the cases in the Federal and State courts. A power of attorney was signed by every member of the club, giving Mr. Thornton full power and authority to fight the cases to the best of his ability and judgment for the interest of all concerned and he entered into the hard task of fighting against rich capitalists, who had kicked us off our lands by tricks that were most villainous, for there was not a particle of justice on their side. They merely wanted to steal our lands and proposed doing so regardless of even a sunbeam of decency. Mr. Thornton spent the principal part of six years scouring the country for testimoney and attended strictly to the courts and land departments, going back and forth to Washington to look closely into all matters so that our record should not be tampered with in the Supreme Court. The Attorney-General warned him that it was war time in Washington and sometimes it has been known that slick thief writers have tampered with the record papers.

The decision of the State Supreme Court was rendered against the settlers, and was a hard blow against us. This decision was a bold clash with the United States against our title from the Government, especially when the Federal Court had taken jurisdiction of the

subject of the location of the surveyors to locate said Rancho on our lands. This brought the subject of the authority of the decree of the Supreme Court to eject us from our homes until the case had finally been determined. We pledged ourselves to fortify ourselves and fight it out legally first, but if not able to do so legally defend our rights regardless of the means employed or the consequences. We asked the court for an injunction to stay the State Supreme Court judgment until the Federal Court had determined the encroachment of the surveys of the Laguna Merced Rancho on our lands. This injunction was denied us in the controversy in the State courts and we regarded this as a warning to prepare for war, and we at onced secured through a friend seventy-five Kentucky rifles, with a four-pounder brass cannon, with grape and cannister shot and plenty of ball cartridges for the rifles. On my 160 acres, in my barn, we fortified our rendezvous with 400 sacks of potatoes as our fort, with portholes cut in the side walls to fire out if we were assaulted by our enemies. A consultation with Judge Crocket, our main attorney, who advised us that we had better give up possession until the Federal Court had decided the cases. As soon as our opponents got the news that we had given up the fight on the sixth day of June, 1863, the Sheriff with a band of hired roughs from San Francisco, with guns and bayonets, appeared early in the morning at Mr. Knowles' house and ejected him and his family and left two men in possession with their guns for defense. The next day, the Sheriff was on hand with his gun men to protect him and he went to every settler's house and left a gun man in possession of the settlers' homes, and the settlers were ordered to move out and leave their cultivated crops, which were about ready to be harvested. The value of these crops was an average of about $1500 on each 160 acres of land. There was Messrs. Pierce and Van Winkle, who had acknowledged some lease of the Deharros, who owned some interest in the ranch which the Sheriff concluded not to eject. Therefore, Mr. Pierce's and Van Winkle's places were opened to us for protection, also Mr. Charles Clark, who was not ejected, gave us quarters in his place. The most of our settlers stopped near the outskirts of our land until the Federal Court had determined the cases. Mr. Knowles purchased two acres of land that is now called Hillcrest and built a cow barn and dwelling house which still stands upon that high point.

All the time this villanous war was going on I was pushing our cases in the United States District Court and finally secured a decision by that court in our favor that the survey was wrong encroaching on us, and ordered them to take the old survey of the ranch made in 1853.

This decision left the settlers' land outside of that survey. Soon after that David Mahoney, the man who was put forward by the capitalists in this fight against us, filed affidavits of frauds of the Government officials and the settlers alleged to have been perpetrated against their ranch, and the court granted a rehearing and it took about six months to rebut this charge of fraud. The court held there was no fraud proven, although reversed its first decision by altering the survey so it took in the most of our lands. The judge announced, however, in the last words of his decision, that it afforded him much satisfaction to feel that the decision was subject to a review by a higher tribunal, where any errors into which he had fallen would be corrected. This decision was made on July 25, 1863.

I immediately entered an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States and hired extra clerks to assist the clerk to get the record to the Supreme Court at Washington as soon as possible. I got the record off to the Attorney General's office at Washington by the middle of September and I sailed on the steamer Sonora for Washington on the 23d of October, 1863, arriving in Washington November 19, 1863. The next day I called on the Attorney General who said he received our appeal record, and that he would send it to the Supreme Court and have it put on the calendar, which I found was done. At this point of the controversy I found Attorney General Rates to be our warm friend, and he remained loyal to us all the way through the fight in the Supreme Court, aiding my attorneys by taking part in the argument before the Supreme Court. Our opponents' arguments did not seem to draw out any response from the court. These arguments were submitted to the court about the first of December and on the 15th day of December 1865, a unanimous decision was rendered in our favor in all things that we appealed from, thereby establishing our titles as good titles from the United States. I took a copy of the decision of the General Land Office for patents, and they were given to every settler on these public lands. This long litigation was not all in vain, for it resulted in perpetual perfection of the titles to the largest portion of the lands which constitute the town now called Colma.

I closed up all of our land matters in Washington about the first of May, 1866 and sailed for California and arrived here about May 24, 1866 with our titles and final decree of the Supreme Court and we immediately commenced taking possession of our homes that our opponents had occupied for three years without even paying us damages or rents for our lands. These rich men who furnished money to fight us did it without using their own names, so they would not become responsible. One of the bankers whose name I refrain from mentioning, for his bank is now a reputable sound institution, said they

were out of pocket by furnishing Mahoney capital in his suits, as they were deceived in the validity of the ranch lands. But it appeared afterwards they got a mortgage from Mahoney on the old ranch location on the whole 2,200 acres where the Supreme Court located the ranch in 1853, and their mortgage was subsequently foreclosed against Mahoney and the land sold to the Spring Valley Water Company.

A little incident happened when I was on the deck of the Sonora bound for Washington. The Chief Justice of our Supreme Court who wrote the Supreme Court's decision against us, greeting me with a smile and inquired where I was going. I said Washington and remarked that "I suppose that is where you are going." He said yes. I knew Lincoln had appointed him as one of the United States Supreme Judges. I felt that he would be against us in that court, but I was wrong. I sailed with him home to California, after adjournment before the court and its favorable decision, and he was always good company on shipboard. In October 1864, I sailed with him for Washington. We had a pleasant voyage. He was always sociable and pleasant with me. While Judge Greer of the Supreme Court was reading the decision of the Supreme Court in our favor Judge Field left the bench and beckoned me from the bar.

I repaired inside the curtain of the court where Field shook hands with me and congratulated me on winning my case and he was always my friend afterwards when I was in Washington.

In 1866 I was living in what was first called School House Station, in which the railraod company sold tickets from their depot, and the only building in the heart of the town was this little old school house, located about where Belli's store now stands. I built my present house in the summer of 1866 and started the blacksmith business once more, on June 28, 1867, employing Jacob Bryan, a good citizen, to assist me in the hard work again. On November 12, 1867, I turned all my custom over to Mr. Bryan and quit the trade for real estate, which I am still following.

In 1868-69 a boom struck some of our settlers and they sold out to the seekers of land, who laid out town lots. The Castle tract was first sub-divided into 100-foot square lots and every lot was sold for cash, but among all the lots sold only two persons built homes, Mrs. Dingman and Billy Beatson. The Castle tract was a dead town for a long time. Then came the School House Extension tract of 120 feet square lots. Dick Husing built the White House, and that tract

also became a dead town for a long time. The next tract was the School House Homestead, in which lots were laid out 125 feet by 120. One house was built by Duncks, and the depot was all that was built for many years. Then came the City Extension Homestead of 100-foot square lots, which no one improved. The next was the Garden Valley Homestead with two buildings, Polito and E. Sweeney. These lots were 120 by 100 and were vacant for a long time. The Valley Homestead was laid out into acre tracts, but was very little improved for a long time. Next came the Abbey Homestead, which for a long time no one seemed to occupy until the Mount Olivet Cemetary took possession of the lots for burial purposes. Next the Clark tract, a small tract of 25-foot lots, which has been occupied most all the time by Jason Wight. The "Seventy-five Dollar Homestead" lots were laid out by Banker Duncon's scheme, but they were never improved except in the occupancy by Mrs. Callanan, who has occupied them in farming. All of the aforesaid homesteads have been dead property to the lot owners until about two years ago, when a small boom was revived by new settlers buying lots for homes and have constructed many new houses.

The Knowles tract has had a boom of great value, also the Crocker Hillcrest and Kinney tracts, which have given a good push to Colma's best location of lots, and the time is not far distant when all the before mentioned real estate will be needed for the rising generation for the city of San Francisco and emigrants coming to our country.

As Vista Grande, the Crocker tract and Hillcrest have settled a large community of people on their tracts of land, it now devolves on Colma to join hands with them as neighbors for improvements, which will be beneficial to both communities in advancing the education of the rising generation.

Now, I have given you a short history of the bottom titles of the first settlers of the town of Colma and hope all the citizens of Colma without regard to nationality, will join hands with their neighboring communities for a good celebration of the Independence of America on the Fourth of July.

DALY CITY CELEBRATES ITS NINTH CHRISTMAS

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

The year 1915 has been a strenuous one for Daly City. Changes have taken place in so many ways that Daly City of today is in wide contrast with Daly City of one year ago, when impending civic improvements was denied the right to progress and needlessly delayed by magnified differences which resulted in wide-spread dissention, thus making the road of our city trustees a hard one.

But all these changes - in personnel and conditions - were destined to come. Such changes are always found in the natural course of evolution and in the making of a great city. Just as it was the rippled times of the pioneer days that made the great State of California which it is today, so it is with the City of Daly City. No great realization of a forward movement was ever accomplished without factional differences. Where difference of opinion does not exist, the town is practically at a standstill, if not going back. No matter what has happened or what has been done, today there exists a good-feeling and the spirit of pride and progressiveness. Our city has, after all, made wonderful strides, and is to be compared today with many cities five times as old in its acquirement of modern improvements. Co-operation with our present board of trustees will mean much more for the town. Already extensive improvements are under consideration. With continued harmony this city will in a few more years prove a revelation of all the prophecies that have often been made by those with a foresight into the future of this section of San Mateo county. Daly City has everything in its favor that nature can endow- climate, scenery, location, pure air direct from the ocean and temperate conditions. All these natural advantages are added to by ideal surroundings, perfect car service, modern civic improvements and nearness to the city of San Francisco, any point of which may be reached for one car fare.

There is still much to be accomplished by our Board of Trustees, but the encouragement and co-operation of the people is very necessary in proceeding with such work. Unity and harmony prevails among those sitting on the board and their object is to carry out the wishes of those who have chosen them to guide the destinies of our city. The year 1915 comes to a close with the reins of the city well in the hands of the administration. Now let it be hoped every

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encouragement be given them to make a clear and fast drive beginning with the new year. Let us try to remove all obstacles in the way of progress, and resolve to begin the new year by getting-together for the good of our city. Nothing is gained by embarrassing the trustees who are giving much of their valuable time in conducting the city's affairs, almost without a particle of renumeration. The mite they do receive little more than pays for car fare and shoe leather in running about in the interests of our city, giving their attention to various details. Evidence your appreciation for all that they are doing to upbuild your town by assisting them in every way possible. When a body of men are doing their duty, and doing the work well, the people in common owe them a tribute. Let that tribute be your undivided and moral support commencing with the new year.

To our Board of Trustees, Burton C. Ross, Edward Freyer, F. B. Woodhouse, H. C. Rothwell and T. P. Moran; our City Clerk, Charles L. Biebel and Treasurer T. Sheehan, Marshal Henry Toft, City Attorney W. J. Locke and Engineer George Kneese, the Daly City Record and The Tattler extends best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We believe that the year 1916 will begin a new era for a better and greater Daly City. To all that will tend to better our city, we resolve to abide by and carry out our part consistently, vigorously and fairly. May the best spirit prevail and every undertaking by the city meet with success.

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IT WOULD PLEASE AT CHRISTMAS

TIME TO GIVE

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

Judge Johnson- a pedigree for that airedale
Rico Biggio - a good story.
Jack Dennis - a smooth road and some gasoline
Professor Savage - a good old waltz
Bob Mullin - a girl
City Marshal Toft- a moving picture of Landini in a bathing suit.
Ed Lopez- A smile from Alice
Bob Hartford - Aloha in regtime
Constable Landini - a tin Lizzie
Horace Fellows- A rocking chair, a cigarette and "Three Weeks."
Jim Casey - more good roads
Doc Castle - a good abalone tide
Charley Biebel - a pretty stenographer to assist him.
Walt Fahey- a box of whist score cards
Burnell the Bear- foghorn's job
Billy Sweeney- more prosperity
Mitch Farmer - a boudier cap
Fat Al - a Hamman massage
Charley Vernengo- a set of trained bones
Al Green- a Teddy Bear
Arthur Bodien - a case for his "loving cup"
Doctor Dixon - a blind speed cop and a fast road
Jawn O'Brien - Some foot ease for swollen feet.
Frank Smack - a dime savings bank
Duck Sullivan - a smack at the Blarney stone
Gene Lucey- a red necktie to match his tile roof.
C. Mundelius - a pair of corsets
Frank Woodhouse - an obliging Pullman porter on his trip South
A. Vireno- another prosperous year
Louie Logarmarsino- the presidency of the Spaghetti Rollers
George Lowans - a nickel savings bank
Ed Freyer- a turkey dinner
Sam Cerf - a megaphone
Doc Rankin - the prettiest girl in filmdom
Jos. Meeks - a toy fire engine
A. J. Crawford- a land boom
Burt Ross- a cure for bashfulness
Frank Knowles - one like Smack's
Tom Moran- assurance of Ireland's freedom

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E. Squires - $12,500 for the dern plant
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George Augustine - a chance to get Meeks' "goat".
Ray Jess- the Vista Grande Park as promised
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R. C. Rothwell - cold turkey rather than none at all
T. Sheehan - a bit of shamrock
Charley Verbrugge - a lot of gravy on his turkey
Gottlieb Miller - an Iron Cross to hang on his stein
Skinny Heim - access to Brother Fat's colored sox box
S. R. Emmons - that $5.50
Ed Ryan - his own way and a mince pie
P.H. Engelbert - a chance to sell you a holiday hat
A. Kielhorn - a pipe, some tobacco, and a light
A. L. Stockton - some business pudding
Geo Pappas - a shave, a massage and a hot towel
T. O'Rourk - a barnyard for his wife's pet hen
Ed Poor- some real old plum pudding
The San Mateo Daily News - a "scoop."
Willard McKay - an order for "kisses" (Candy - he's married)
Bill Lewis - a pair of tassel boots and a whistle.
George Fisher - a loaded cigar (?)
John D. Daly - the assurance of more town improvements.
Sid Harris - Lottie's love.
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A HOPELESS PROTEST

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

Mutely I muse, as Christmas time draws nigh,
How it's the proper season to be glad,
And how I should not cavil or be sad,
Scratching my vacuous pockets with a sigh,
But should rejoice that loving friends are nigh
To keep alive the Christmas present fad
And make me feel myself a stingy cad
If I conserve my wealth and do not buy.

For each expects a gift he does not need;
A cane for him who walks without a stick,
A set of books for those who never read,
A pocketbook or satin necktie sleek -
Though you've a dozen, you cannot refuse
Like useful gits which you will never use.

Too oft of yore, with foolish heart and young,
My forty yearly gifts with unetous care,
I've bought; and builded castles in the air,
Thinking that long-sought hopes would be among
The presents in return, and I have strung
My rosary of wishes, free and fair,
Until on Christmas morn, with maddened stare,
I've stood, the most unhappy dog unhung.

Before a pair of carpet slippers knit
Just like the twenty others stored away,
Various books 'twere better left unwrit,
Embroidered things in dubious array
Designed for towels, scarf-pins, footwear, hats-
And, O ye saints of Christmas, those cravats!

I had an uncle once - peace to his shade!
(He left me not a nickle when he died)
Who never passed me by at Christmas-tide,
But ever the same relentless present made

'Twas a large volume of billious shade,
Entitled "Simpson's Natural History Guide,"
A literary pest I used to hide
Down-cellar, where its color would not fade

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Daily City Record and Tattler

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Ten years a certain Christmas package came,
Ten years with hope that still defied despair
I broke the seal, and found the same
Uncompromising "Natural History" there -
And when the book came not on Christmas Day
I knew for sure he'd passed away.

And even now as I quill these lines, I feel
The Christmas microbe gnawing at my veins,
Inspiring me to madness, till I steal
Toward the marts where Christmas commerce reigns,
There to indulge inherent vice and choose
Nice useful gifts which none will ever use.

THE STATE HIGHWAY

As I came down the State highway
The rolling hills were bright with dew.
And where the hill trees lined the way
The morning light was streaming through.
I do not know if you have felt
The thrill of beauty when the day
Is breaking through the ocean mists
So softly delicate and gray -
But God was in His Heaven then,
As I came down the State highway.

Within a day so many pass
Upon that wide and brimming road,
But do they all, I wonder, know
That beauty there has her abode?
Do their hearts, too, make tender songs
For beauty of the summer day -
For willows mirrored in the stream,
and green hills in their array?
I wondered while my own heart sang.
As I came down the State highway.

The great highway is there for all
To travel where their fancies lead-
The motors welcome and the small,
Alike for e'en the prancing steed,
Within a day o' so may pass,

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But do their fancies ever play,
As children might, in that broad road,
Delightfully? I can not say.
I only know my own heart sang
As I came down the State highway.

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MEN WHO MADE HISTORY

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

Judge George H. Buck

Judge George H. Buck has been Superior Judge of this county so long that to many it seems he was always in that office. But, of course, he wasn't. He came to this county 1880. To get started he was willing to do any kind of menial labor. It is said of him that he worked in a livery stable for a while not very long, though. His readiness to help, his clear-cut conversation and general command of himself, soon gave him a standing in the community. Being a lawyer, he was desirous of getting into legal work. It was at the time when the Democratic party was not very powerful in number and yet they were always in hopes. At each election a full ticket was presented, nearly all for slaughter. It was not easy, always to get candidates. In 1882 George H. Buck was urged to accept the Democratic nomination for District Attorney. He consented and thus was introduced to San Mateo county politics. Nobody expected him to win. He was unknown and on the wrong ticket. Nevertheless, he went into the campaign to win. He was so energetic, affable and capable, that from the first great interest in him was manifested by the people. They liked his straight-forward, unpretentious way. Before the campaign ended, the unknown candidate had become popular. Every effort was made by his opponents to check his successful fight. It was all in vain, however. He was elected district attorney.

He no sooner assumed control of his office than he introduced a policy of getting his work done promptly and with little expense to the county. The Board of Supervisors never had to wait. His pleasure was to expediate matters.

The people notied the good work and were well pleased. He could have been district attorney as long as he wished, but he was called to a higher position. He was given the Democratic nomination for Superior Judge. A strong man ran against him, but he was elected by a large majority. The high honor made no change in him. He remained the same plain, prompt, energetic, affable man. He did not even buy a better suit of clothes or an overcoat, but work in the court room moved on vigorously. There was no indecision in his policy. So he has continued to this day, at each election being elected by increasing majorities. One year ago he was elected at the primary. He has still four years to serve. There is a feeling of contentment among the people when they have such a man for Superior Judge.

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Supervisor James T. Casey

Supervisor James T. Casey wishes everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Although he has been supervisor for seven years there is not much change in him. He is the same hard working, earnest advocate of every plan of improvement. But what great changes have been wrought for the convenience and comfort of the public during those seven years. It has certainly been a period of wonderful progress.

During Supervisor Casey's first campaign his platform was "Give the people roads and lights." It seems strange now to say that there was not a public light in the First Township, such a short time ago; yet it is a fact. Furthermore, there were no modern roads. There was not even a law providing for the installation of public lighting systems.

When Supervisor Casey was first elected his friends feared that there would be difficulty about keeping the promise as to lights.

As if acting in accordance with his forward thought, the State Legislature provided for the formation of public lighting districts.

Advantage of this State legislation was taken at once and three districts were formed. Very soon the lights were shining and the era of darkness for the First Township was at an end. Thus one half of Supervisor Casey's platform was made good.

The struggle for roads has been a long and hard one, but many of them are already in evidence. It required much promotion to bring the State Highway through the First Township, but it is here and what a satisfactory blessing it is to Daly City and San Bruno and the intervening territory! What a relief it is to the taxpayers to know that that main artery of travel will always be kept up by the State! Suppose the people of Daly City had to maintain their part of it. Would it not be a heavy burden to them? That was Supervisor Casey's first great road victory.

The next important road building move was the $1,250,000 bond issue, The First Township has secured its full share of that. Through it

Colma is connected with the Coast Boulevard and San Bruno and South San Francisco are connected with the Bayside Boulevard.

Besides the School Street and Spring Valley Boulevard, the Junipero Serra Highway has been modernized to the City line. Many short pieces of road have also been built for the accommodation of the people, all where they were needed greatly.

The improvements are so pronounced that any one who has been away during the seven years would hardly know the place to see it now.

All this work has been so carefully and honestly managed that Judge Buck has instructed his Grand Jury that he would not allow claims for inspecting the road work of the county, there being no need of such inspection.

Supervisor James T. Casey has kept his promises. Under him the long neglected First Township has assumed its place of prominence, to which its location, wealth and population entitle it. There is much to be done, but have no fears. "Casey is still at the bat."

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THE MAN WHO FOUNDED A TOWN

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

John D. Daly

John D. Daly, whence the city of Daly City has been named, is one of the few men who helped to bring about the present development of this section of the county, and to find a more interesting character than John D. Daly, or one who has been more closely associated with the upbuilding and history of the northern end of the peninsula, would indeed be a difficult matter. He is one of a very small number of men now living in this section of the county who were of the sturdy pioneer class.

Mr. Daly is a pleasant old gentlemen, and as his name would indicate, and as perhaps most of you know, is of Irish-English extraction and it must have been good old stock at that, for John Daly, ripe in years, though they have dealt kindly with him and left him hale and hearty and full of vigor, has been and is still, a remarkable character in many ways. His mind grasps the issue of the present moment with the same clearness of preception that it did when he was helping to make history in California 'way back in the days of the formative period, and that he did his full share is attested by his high standing in the community; which, after all, is the greatest compliment that can be paid to any man.

Mr. Daly settled in what is now San Mateo county in 1854, which was some time before the present county was ever thought of. It was even then controlled by Jose Maria Sanchez, who was the Indian agent for the Mexican government, and the place was known as San Mateo Rancho which later was acquired by W. D. M. Howard.

At that time the county was full of Indians, but they were all for the most part peaceable. One large band, according to Mr. Daly's narrative of the early days, known as Flatheads, were only a short distance from San Mateo. Port Smith Square, now known as Portsmouth Square, which was located opposite the site occupied by the hall of justice in San Francisco, was the starting point for the entire north coast country, and every bit of travel started from this place, thence along the original El Camino Real over which he first came in 1854. According to Mr. Daly the original route was from Port Smith Square to Geary street, westerly in line to about Van Ness Avenue and Market street, thence to the old Mission

THE MAN WHO FOUNDED A TOWN

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

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Dolores church, then out Dolores street to about Nineteenth street, from there to where San Jose avenue intersects 22nd street, then along San Jose avenue through Daly City, or what was then known as Puerto Sivelo, meaning low pass, thence on down the Mission Road to San Jose and other points south. The first stage stop enroute south was at Smart's ranch, known as the New York Dairy. The second stop down the peninsula was where the Mt. Olivet cemetery is now situated.

Mr. Daly earned his first real money "riding mail" from Howard's ranch to the office in San Francisco when he was fourteen years old and you will admit that this was rather a large job for a boy of fourteen years. He continued "riding mail" until something better had shown up, but admits that he has never felt quite as proud over anything since the first job he ever had. In 1861 he had accumulated sufficient funds to start a small dairy, the present location of the Millbrae Dairy being the scene of his first venture and this has been his business since that time. True he has a large interest outside of dairying, but he elects to be known as a dairyman, and judging from his comfortable fortune we have every reason to believe that he was a successful dairyman and that he also knew his business well. He is the oldest living dairyman on the coast in point of service and is one of the heaviest stock-holders in the Dairy Delivery, which is the finest and best equipped milk supply depot in California. This company has expended $200,000 in improvements alone, and while it is a great source of pride to Mr. Daly, he is not active in the management of the concern.

"We never knew what it meant to water the milk in the old days," mused Mr. Daly. "In fact, if we had known, I guess it would not have been considered safe, for in those days men either didn't want to be crooked, or else public sentiment was against it. Of course we had laws in those days; not many, 'tis true, but what few we had meant something and were enforced. What is now San Mateo county was then a township and we had a justice for each township, their functions being much the same as the present superior judges. And they were real men. There were few delays; justice was speedy. When a man was proven guilty he got what was coming to him right away. No long drawn out, expensive trials. If he was found to have committed a crime, the best lawyer on earth could not have saved him; and it is to the country's credit that we had but few lawyers in those days and the few we had were real men. Take such as Combs, Wallace and Cowles. They were fine judges, honest, humane and withal unafraid. No man was ever railroaded out of his rights or failed to get his just deserts at the hands of

those men. Tis a pity that the honorable position of judge should have retrograded to the present status of a mere political job, more frequently held by men of immature judgment and very little knowledge of the law. They didn't have fine chambers in the early days, or affect superiority; neither was the salary large. In fact, it was sometimes necessary to have a side line. Judge Templeton of Searsville found it necessary to deal cards at night and justice during the day. And he was considered especially good at both. He was neither too good to deal cards, nor too bad to be a good judge of right and wrong. Kearny street, San Francisco, was lined with dives and gambling houses, but there was not one robbery or crime committed then to twenty now, and the reason is that the people were more honest then. Honor had not yet become extinct. All the elements were there to make thieves and criminals, but we didn't have them, and now we have them in violent form with all of these elements removed. As a matter of fact men devoted one-half their time attending to their own business and the other half letting the other fellow attend to theirs. In this way we got along pretty well and had very little trouble. Trying to law a man out of something that rightfully belonged to him was seldom, if ever, resorted to. It would not have been safe, in the first place, to have attempted it, and secondly, there would have been no use trying it."

While Mr. Daly has never lived in Daly City since it has been named after him, he has been closely identified with the different business enterprises and growth of our town and is at the present time one of the largest property owners in the city. Thirty-eight years ago he moved his family from the ranch to a home he built on Guererro Street, San Francisco; but for many years he spent nearly all of his time at Daly City, where most of his interest are and though new ties have been formed during the later years of his residence in San Francisco, there is always a feeling of loyalty in his stout old heart for the scenes of his early struggles and triumphs and a love for the city that bears his name, that will be fresh and sweet during the remaining years of his life.

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SHERIFF MICHAEL SHEEHAN

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"Mike", as he is generally called by his numerous friends in this county, is one of the most popular and efficient sheriffs that ever served San Mateo county. Mr. Sheehan previous to his election to office and residence in Redwood City lived in San Mateo for over twenty years during which time he served as constable and probation officer for twelve years with much credit. It was while acting as probation officer that he gained much of his popularity with the residents of this county. His earnestness and careful attention to all cases reported to his office were quietly handled by him personally and many a wayward boy and girl were put on the right path by him. His advice was always kindly and no matter how incorrigible an offender may have been the advice of Mr. Sheehan was usually listened to with good effect. There is none of the bully to be found in his makeup. He is big, good natured and quiet in his manner, but nevertheless, in his pleasant way he commands the respect of his position and even the most hardened criminal fears to disobey his order. He is considerate of the welfare of those in his charge and believes that there is always a chance for a man to make good even though he got a bad start in life. He has often helped a prisoner to start anew in the world after his discharge and assisted many others when in need. Like old Santa Claus he is liked by the children and is never too busy to speak a word to them whenever he meets them. To Mr. Sheehan we wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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OUR PRAISEWORTHY SUPERVISORS

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The tendency of the present age, in fact it has been the tendency throughout all ages, is to criticise the actions of our fellow men, especially those who are occupying positions of honor and trust. And how often that criticism is unjust and unwarranted. Take, for instance, the case of the present board of supervisors of this county. The members are coming in for a certain amount of criticism, because, in the opinion of some, the tax rate is too high. Now is this criticism justified? Is the tax rate too high? Why is the rate slightly raised this year instead of lowered? Is there anybody in the county who does not know it was for the purpose of securing the necessary funds to enable the supervisors to carry on the work started last year of building a system of highways that in the present state of completion has already brought fame to San Mateo county and has done more to advertise the county than anything else; a system of highways that when it is finished will be unsurpassed by any in the world. Pick up the San Francisco papers and Sunday after Sunday you will see columns devoted to San Mateo county and its wonderful scenic highways. The writers never seem to tire of extolling the magnificence of the roads and the grandeur of the county they traverse. Practically the entire auto traffic from San Francisco that formerly went across the bay, has been diverted down the peninsula since the building of the new highways. Places heretofore unknown to the outside world have been opened up in different parts of the county. Homeseekers by the hundreds have been induced to come here and locate and hundreds more will come when the roads are all completed. Every district in the county is feeling the beneficial effects of the road building activity. The supervisors have assured the people that the highway work will be completed next year and that the tax rate will be lowered. The taxpayers on the whole are satisfied with the way the money is being spent in the different districts and those few who are voicing their dissatisfaction at the present time will see later that the money has been well expended and that it will bring returns to the county many time over. The supervisors are entitled to credit, not criticism, for what they have done, and are doing. Supervisor McBain is building a network of splendid roads in the third township through the beautiful residence section of Menlo Park and Atherton and in other parts of his district. Supervisor Brown is constructing a roadway in the second township to connect Redwood City with Beresford that will equal the State highway.

OUR PRAISEWORTHY SUPERVISORS

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In the first township, Supervisor Casey is building laterals to connect with the State highway that are having a wonderful effect in the development of the northern part of the county. Supervisor Francis is working out a system of roads in his township, the fourth, to bring every part of the district in close connection with the outside; while Supervisor Thompson, the fifth, is looking after the construction of a scenic road to connect Pescadero with Santa Cruz county. These roads when completed in the different districts, will, with those already constructed, give San Mateo County a wonderful chain of roads that will be equal, if not superior, to any in the world.

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JEFFERSON SCHOOLS

Daly City Record and Tattler

Dec. 25, 1915

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W. J. Savage, who has been the principal of the Jefferson schools, which include those of Daly City and Colma, since August 1898, is justly proud of them. To them he has given the best of his life and he is sure that it could not have been devoted to a better use.

When he was put in control, he and those other teachers, Misses Alice Chalmers, now principal of the Longfellow school, Blanche McQuaid and Kate Garassino were all that were needed to teach one hundred and twenty pupils in the Colma school.

Now there are nine hundred and seventy pupils in the same territory, located as follows: Crocker Tract 223; Vista Grande, 414; Colma 333. They are taught by the following teachers: Crocker Tract - Misses Mary Savage, Mildred Erikson, Muriel Seidl, Jennie Bowen, Stella Catania and Mrs. Edith Hassett.

Vista Grande - Misses Hazel Prouty, Alma Blake, Myrtle Packwood, Nora Wilson, Genevieve Tobin, Emma Cella, Mary Gardener, May Scott, Gertrude Donnelley and Mrs. Elouise de Velez and Mrs. Jennie Jones.

Colma - Misses Esther Torello, Marion Groves, Florence Herrick, Agnes Gallagher, Anne Foley, Ruth Cowan, Helena Hansen, Manuelita Koefocd and Rose Sturla.

There is a night school also in the Vista Grande School conducted by Miss Esther Lawrence.

In behalf of these teachers it may be said that they are all hard workers and never spare themselves to advance the children entrusted in their care. Each one is expected to manage her class in all respects. She is directly responsible for its success or failure. Knowing that all depends upon her efforts, she sees to it that she does not fail.

There is seldom any trouble. There is no outside criticism to speak of. What little there is comes from unreasonable people who have an ax to grind. Good will, between teachers and pupils prevails because all pupils are taught from the beginning that the teacher must be respected.

The teachers while expecting constant attendance, hard work and willing obedience from their pupils, never forget to give to them every joy and privilege they can secure them.

During the World's Exposition period, nearly every teacher took her entire class to the Fair on more than one occasion. When the principal could go he went with them to add to the pleasure. Those days and evenings at the great Exposition will be never forgotten. They made a little extra expense and trouble for the teachers, but they were contented because it was joy and instruction for their children. Those who sometimes talk a whole lot did not do as much.

At the Christmas closing there is a holiday entertainment in each school. Excellent programs are rendered and every child is presented with a box of candy, the cost of which is borne by the teachers. All that can be done is done for the children and it is no wonder, they do all they can for their teachers.

In each school there is a well selected library and the books are so interesting they are constantly in use.

It is no unusual event for the children in our schools to win distinction for efficiency in their work. In the annual diploma examination they stand very high and frequently have the first places. All their papers are presented in good language and excellent penmanship. When they go to highschool in San Francisco, they are recognized for their proficiency.

In the recent test in composition on "My Pets" conducted by the Examiner they showed what they could do in competition with the children of many other schools. Out of sixty-two prizes awarded, Jefferson pupils captured twenty of them and several more were accorded honorable mention. This was quite a compliment, but there was an additional one. The compositions were looked over a second time to award ten dollars offered by a New York society for the best evidence of sympathy for animals and Nellie Hart of Vista Grande was one of those to be named as the most meritorious. She received a grand letter and a check for three dollars from D. O. Lively, chief of the live stock department of the Exposition.

Our schools are not only abreast of the times in everything, but are leading. Much has been accomplished and more will be achieved. There is every reason for the people to be proud of them and they are. The few knockers have very little interest in education.

The great need at present is more school room. Just now it is necessary to have two large classes in the Band Hall and another in Ryan's basement. These three classes are not in fit quarters, but they are the best obtainable under the circumstances.

The trustees, James Callan, Edward Poor and M.C. Callan, have tried to better conditions by calling three bond elections, but owing to various misunderstandings all three have failed to carry, so nothing could be done. Very soon another attempt will be made and it is to be hoped that all will unite in carrying the bond issue, so that our school buildings will be a credit to the district, as they should be.

We have famous roads, the lights have done away with the darkness, and why should any of us oppose a bond issue to build more good schools. The demand is steadily on the increase.

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